

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 DAR ES 01293 270630Z
ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
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AMCONSUL CAPETOWN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T DAR ES SALAAM 1293

EXDIS

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O.11652: XGDS-2
TAGS: PDEV PORT TZ
SUBJECT: NYERERE'S PRELIMINARY REPORT ON FRONG LINE MEETING

1. SUMMARY: PRESIDENT NYERERE'S REPORT TO THE US AND UK ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE FRONT LINE PRESIDENTS' MEETING IN DAR ES SALAAM INDICATES THAT THE FL HAS BROUGHT THE PF AROUND TO PARTICIPATING IN AN ALL PARTIES CONFERENCE AND REDUCED PF DIFFICULTIES WITH THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PLAN. ON NAMIBIA, SWAPO PRESIDENT NUJOMA SEEMS PREPARED TO FINESSE WALVIS BAY, BUT IS STILL INSISTING ON THE UNACCEPTABILITY OF SAG TROOPS IN THE NORTH. END SUMMARY.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 DAR ES 01293 270630Z

2. THE FIRST SESSION OF THE FRONG LINE PRESIDENTS' MEETING IN DAR ES SALAAM ENDED EARLY EASTER MORNING, MARCH 26. PRESIDENT NYERERE CALLED IN AMBASSADOR YOUNG, MYSELF, AND ACTING UK HIGH COMMISSIONER JOHN STRONG TO GIVE US HIS INITIAL IMPRESSIONS. ONLY OTHER PERSON PRESENT WAS NYERERE'S PRIVATE SECRETARY JOSEPH BUTIKU.

3. ON RHODESIA, NYERERE SAID THAT THE PATRIOTIC FRONT WAS NOW PREPARED TO ATTEND AN ALL PARTIES CONFERENCE BASED ON THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PLAN WITH THE INTERNAL NATIONALISTS, INCLUDING SMITH. THE PF STILL INSISTED, HOWEVER, THAT THE MILITARY AND CONSTITUTIONAL SIDES OF THE TALKS MUST BE CARRIED ON SEPARATELY, WITH THE PF ONLY INVOLVED IN THE MILITARY DISCUSSIONS.

4. NYERERE SAID THAT UPON REVIEWING THE A-AP AND THE BRITISH POSITION AT MALTA, HE NOW THOUGHT THAT HE HAD BEEN LESS THAN FAIR TO THE BRITISH IN DEMANDING THAT THEY "DEFINE THEIR MINIMUM ESSENTIALS". THEIR POSITION WAS IN FACT PRETTY CLEAR ON THE QUESTION OF POWER-SHARING. NYERERE AND THE FRONG LINE AGREED THAT DEFENSE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS MUST REMAIN WITH THE RESIDENT COMMISSIONER DURING THE TRANSITION PERIOD. THE PF DESIRE FOR A ROLE ON THE MILITARY SIDE COULD BE MET BY THEIR MEMBERSHIP ON THE MILITARY COMMITTEE. EVEN FRELIMO, WHICH HAD WON A WAR, HAD ACCEPTED THIS IN MOZAMBIQUE. INTERNAL SECURITY COULD STAY WITH THE RC ALSO, PROVIDED THAT HE FOUND A PERSON WHO WAS ACCEPTABLE TO THE PF TO HEAD THE POLICE FORCE.

5. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION FROM ACTING HIGH COMMISSIONER STRONG ABOUT PF OBJECTIONS TO A UN FORCE, NYERERE SAID THERE WAS NO PROBLEM WITH THIS. HE HAD IT IN MUGABE'S OWN HANDWRITING. IN TOMORROW'S MEETING, NYERERE AND THE FL INTENDED TO GO OVER WITH THE PF A "SIDE BY SIDE" REVIEW OF THE UK AND PF POSITIONS AT
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 DAR ES 01293 270630Z

MALTA. THE FL COULD SEE NO MAJOR PROBLEMS AND WOULD URGE ACCEPTANCE ON THE PF. IF THE UK WAS PREPARED TO PRESS AHEAD, THE GAP COULD BE CLOSED COMPLETELY.

6. ON NAMIBIA, NYERERE SAID THAT, AS HE HAD EARLIER INDICATED TO US, HE HAD ADVISED NUJOMA TO TAKE INDEPENDENCE NOW AND RESERVE WALVIS BAY FOR LATER. NUJOMA SEEMED PREPARED TO GO ALONG, IF HE COULD GET ASSURANCES FROM THE WESTERN FIVE (AND PRESUMABLY THE UN) THAT THEY RECOGNIZED WALVIS BAY AS A PART OF NAMIBIA. NUJOMA WAS ADAMANT, HOWEVER, ABOUT THE PROPOSED TWO LOCATIONS FOR SAG TROOPS IN THE NORTH, CLAIMING THAT SAG SUPPORT FOR UNITA WAS RUN OUT OF ONE OF THEM. NUJOMA INSISTED THAT SAG TROOPS MUST BE EITHER A) "LOCATED FURTHER SOUTH", OR B) CONFINED TO WINDHOEK ITSELF. NUJOMA ALSO WANTED AT LEAST 5,000 UN TROOPS. ACCORDING TO NYERERE, NUJOMA HAD RAISED ONE NEW POINT: THE SYG MUST HAVE A "CLEAR MANDATE".

7. WE DID NOT PRESS A TIRED NYERERE FURTHER ON THIS LAST POINT, TO WHICH HE DID NOT SEEM TO ATTACH MUCH IMPORTANCE. WE ASSUME IT BEARS ON THE RELATIVE POWERS OF THE ADMINISTRATOR GENERAL AND THE UN SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE. NYERERE ACCEPTED AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S STATEMENT THAT A) UN MANDATES TRADITIONALLY DID NOT SPECIFY

TROOP NUMBERS BUT LEFT IT UP TO THE SYG, AND B) THE FIVE FOREIGN MINISTERS HAD ASSURED THDFSYG THAT HOWEVER MANY TROOPS BE NEEDED WOULD BE PAID FOR. NYERERE SAID HE WOULD TRY AGAIN TO GET NUJOMA TO DROP THE NUMBERS QUESTION.

8. COMMENT: NYERERE IS CLEARLY PRESSING HARD FOR AN ALL PARTIES CONFERENCE. HE SEEMS TO BE DOING PRETTY WELL IN REDUCING PF OBJECTIONS TO SPECIFICS OF THE A-AP. THE PRELIMINARY COPY OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S LATEST LETTER (FRESH FROM THE TELEPRINTER) WHICH WE LEFT WITH HIM WILL PROBABLY STRENGTHEN HIS RESOLVE FOR THIS PART OF THE JOB. HOWEVER, DESPITE NYERERE'S CONVERSATION EARLIER THIS WEEK WITH AMBASSADOR YOUNG AND HIS SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSIONS WITH THE TIME GROUP AND WITH CONGRESSMAN SOLARZ, THERE WAS NO SIGN THAT NYERERE YET RECOGNIZES THE IMPORTANCE OF INCLUDING THE
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 DAR ES 01293 270630Z

INTERNAL NATIONALIST LEADERS IN THE CONFERENCE (AS OPPOSED MERELY TO "PERMITTING" THEM TO ATTEND).

9. NUJOMA'S SEEMING WILLINGNESS TO FINESSE THE WALVIS BAY ISSUE IS AN ACHIEVEMENT FOR NYERERE. HOWEVER, HIS FAILURE TO BUDGE NUJOMA ON TROOP LOCATIONS IS DISCOURAGING.

10. ALL OF THE ABOVE SHOULD BE TREATED AS A PRELIMINARY REPORT, SENT AT THIS TIME PRIMARILY BECAUSE UK HIGH COMMISSIONER STRONG IS REPORTING AND WE DID NOT WISH YOU TO BE BEHIND-HAND ON INFORMATION. WE ARE LIKELY TO HEAR FROM NYERERE AGAIN LATER TODAY OR TOMORROW AFTER THE FRONG LINE MEETING HAS ENDED AND HE HAS HAD

A CHANCE TO STUDY PRESIDENT CARTER'S LETTER. OUR FEELING FOR THE SITUATION WILL BE BETTER THEN.

1. INCIDENTALLY, ANGOLAN PRESIDENT NETO WAS EXPECTED UP UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE SATURDAY EVENING, BUT DID NOT ATTEND THE FL PRESIDENTS' MEETING. MUGABE, NKOMO, AND NUJOMA WERE IN DAR-ES SALAAM.
SPAIN

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